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MARK D. BROWN  
STEARNS WEAVER MILLER  
WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON, P.A.  
SUITE 1900  
200 EAST BROWARD BOULEVARD  
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

APR - 4 2005

In re Application of:  
WILLIAM FONDRIEST :  
Application No. 10/693,801 : DECISION ON PETITION  
Filed: October 24, 2003 : TO MAKE SPECIAL  
Attorney Docket No. 36846.003 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, filed March 15, 2004, to make the above-identified application special.

Petitioner requests that the above-identified application be made special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.), Section 708.02, Item II. INFRINGEMENT

Subject to a requirement for a further showing as may be necessitated by the facts of a particular case, an application may be made special because of actual infringement (but not for prospective infringement) upon payment of the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(h) and the filing of a petition accompanied by a statement by the applicant, assignee, or an attorney/agent registered to practice before the Office alleging:

- (A) That there is an infringing device or product actually on the market or method in use;
- (B) That a rigid comparison of the alleged infringing device, product, or method with the claims of the application has been made, and that, in his or her opinion, some of the claims are unquestionably infringed; and
- (C) That he or she has made or caused to be made a careful and thorough search of the prior art or has a good knowledge of the pertinent prior art.
- (D) Applicant must provide one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already

of record.

The petition contains the petition fee and a statement in accordance with M.P.E.P., Section 708.02, Item II.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is GRANTED.

The application is being forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

If the examiner can make this application special without prejudice to any possible interfering applications, and he/she should make a rigid search for such, he/she is authorized to do so for the next action. Should the application be rejected, the application will not be considered special for the subsequent action unless the applicant promptly makes a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to have an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, he/she should consider such application simultaneously with this application and should state in the official letter of such application that she/he is taking it out of its turn because of possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this application or should this application becomes involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by all Patent and Trademark Office officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by the applicant.

After allowance, this application will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. Section 1309.

Inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to Jose' G. Dees at (571) 272-1569.



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Jose' G. Dees, Special Programs Examiner  
Technology Center 2800  
Semiconductors, Electrical and Optical  
Systems and Components